



Captain (Ret.) George F. Archambault, Ph.G., Ph.C., J.D.

Captain Archambault was appointed the first Pharmacy Liaison Officer for the U.S. Public Health Service. Additional noble titles he held included “Father of Consultant Pharmacy,” “Number 109,” and “Pharmacist of the Twentieth Century.” On April 22, 1999, for his 90th birthday party, Deputy Surgeon General Kenneth Moritsugu also proclaimed CAPT Archambault a “Living Treasure of the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.” CAPT George F. Archambault died on January 1, 2001.

CAPT Archambault graduated from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy (MCP) with his Ph.G. in 1931 and his Ph.C. in 1933. In 1941 he received a law degree from Northeastern University. He also received numerous honorary degrees. CAPT Archambault taught commercial pharmacy at MCP. He began working at the U.S. Marine Hospital in Brighton, Massachusetts in 1943 as a civilian, and in 1945 he joined the Public Health Service (PHS) reserve. From 1947 to 1965, he was Chief of the Pharmacy Branch of the PHS Division of Hospitals. CAPT Archambault served as the pharmacy liaison officer to the Surgeon General from 1957 to 1965. In 1965, he became the Medicare pharmacy planning consultant to the Division of Medical Care Administration. In this role, he was responsible for writing the regulations governing pharmacy’s role in Medicare and Medicaid. CAPT Archambault retired at the rank of Captain in 1967, having provided thirty-four years of service to the PHS.

CAPT Archambault was a charter member of the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists (ASHP) in 1942 and later served as president. In 1956, he was awarded ASHP’s Whitney Award. Additionally, he served as the 109th President of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) from 1962-1963, hence the nickname “Number 109”. In 1969, he was rewarded the Remington Medal from the APhA. CAPT Archambault also received the Craigie Award from the American Society of Military Surgeons in 1962, which is presented for outstanding accomplishments in the advancement of professional pharmacy within the federal government. Furthermore, CAPT Archambault was a charter member of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists in 1970. He was truly a pharmacy visionary as he stated: “It is the pharmacist’s professional responsibility to protect the public against iatrogenesis, physician-induced injury or disease in the area of drug prescribing especially as to overdosage, incompatibilities, contraindications, and synergistic drug actions.”